FIG. 1

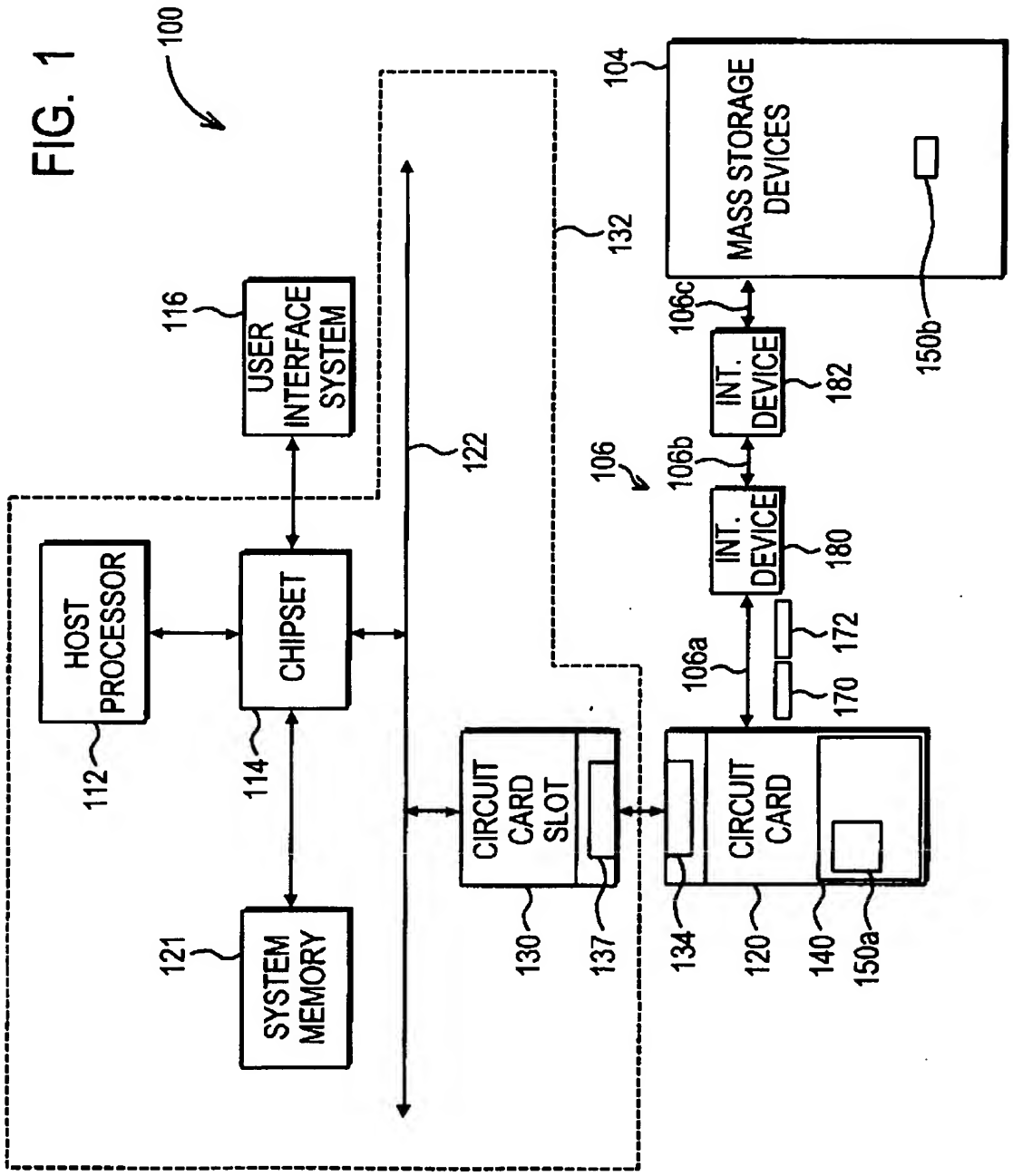


FIG. 2

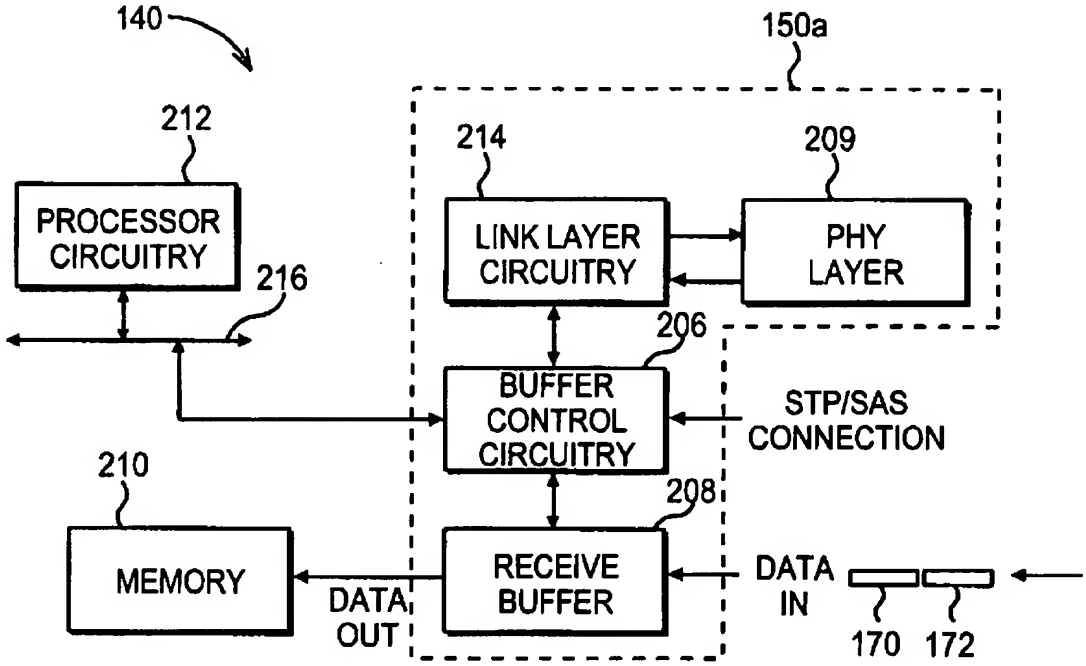

140
150a
212
214
209
PROCESSOR CIRCUITRY
LINK LAYER CIRCUITRY
PHY LAYER
216
206
BUFFER CONTROL CIRCUITRY
STP/SAS CONNECTION
210
208
MEMORY
RECEIVE BUFFER
DATA IN
DATA OUT
170
172

FIG. 3

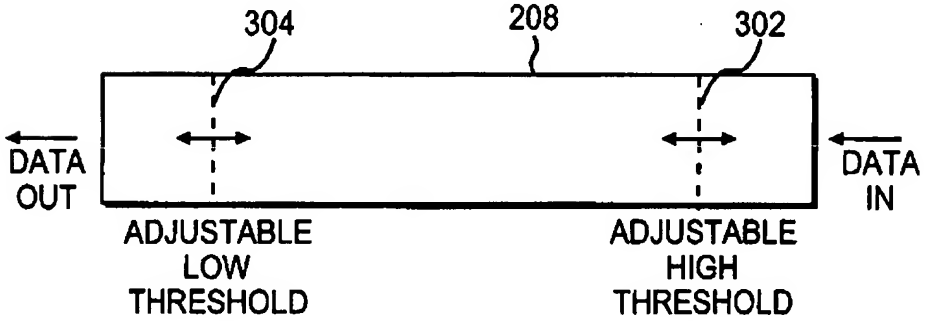

304
208
302
DATA OUT
DATA IN
ADJUSTABLE LOW THRESHOLD
ADJUSTABLE HIGH THRESHOLD

FIG. 4A

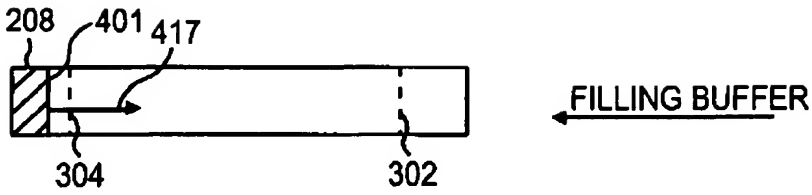


FIG. 4B

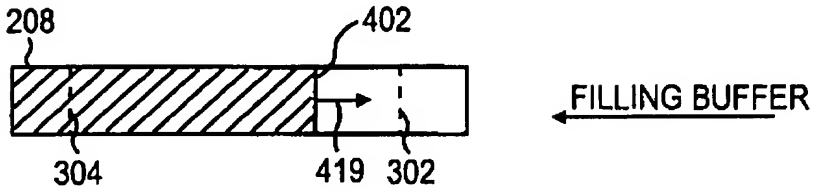


FIG. 4C

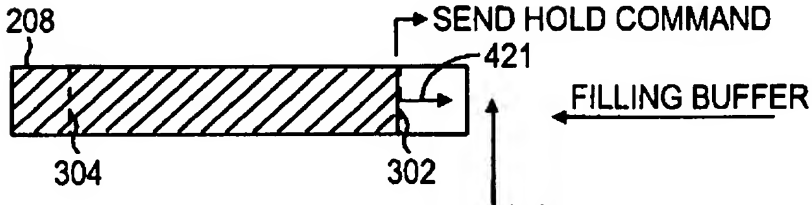
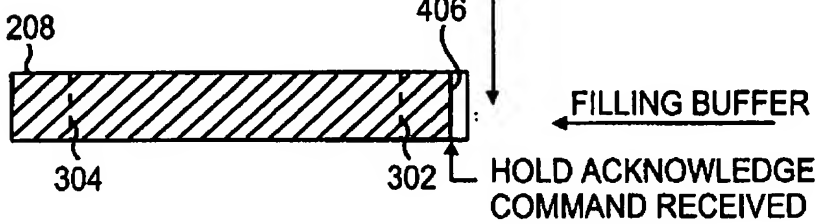


FIG. 4D



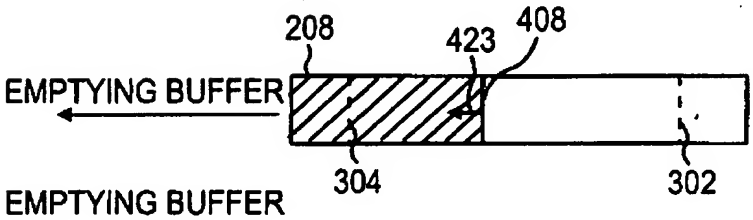


FIG. 4E

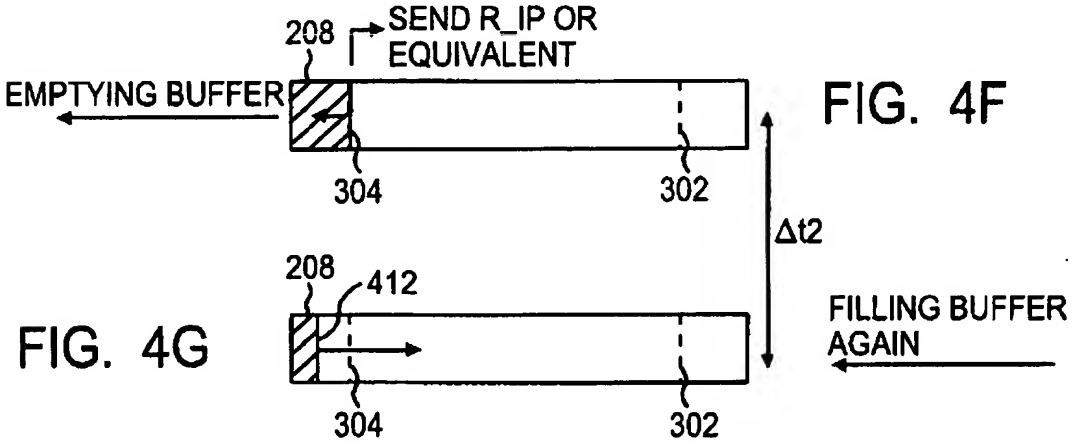


FIG. 4F

FIG. 4G

FIG. 5

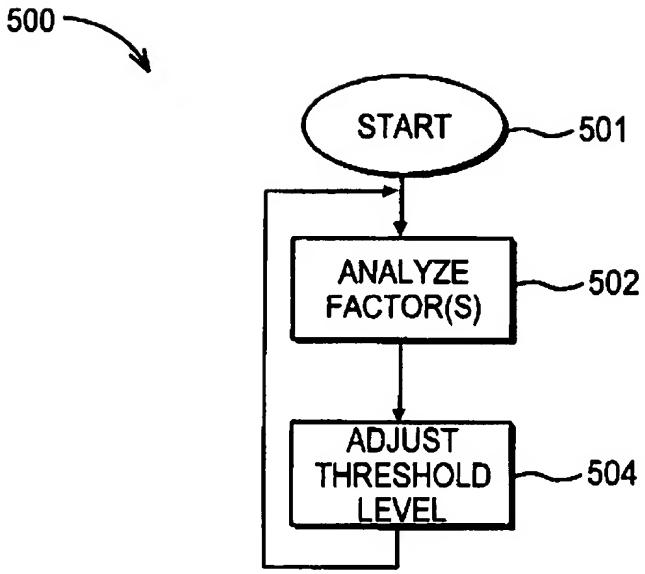
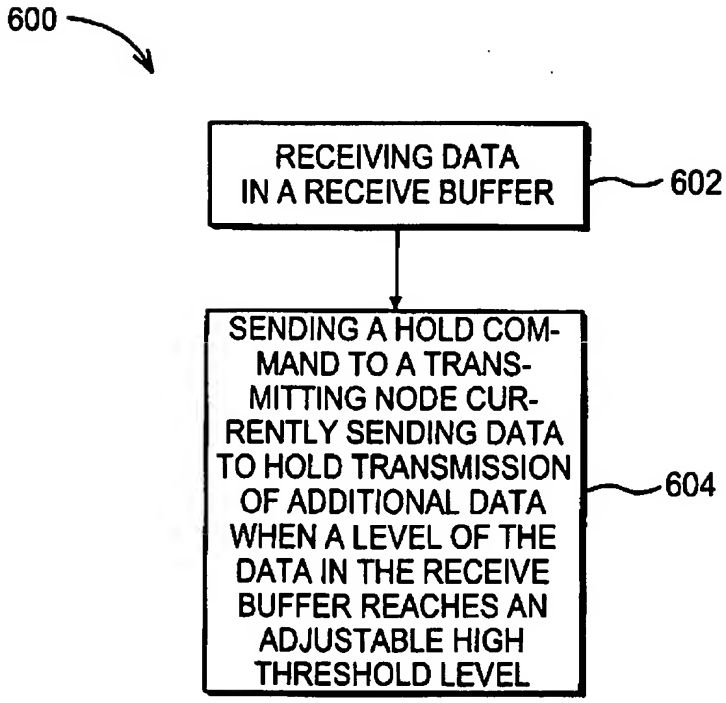

500
START
501
ANALYZE FACTOR(S)
502
ADJUST THRESHOLD LEVEL
504

FIG. 6


600
RECEIVING DATA IN A RECEIVE BUFFER
602
SENDING A HOLD COMMAND TO A TRANSMITTING NODE CURRENTLY SENDING DATA TO HOLD TRANSMISSION OF ADDITIONAL DATA WHEN A LEVEL OF THE DATA IN THE RECEIVE BUFFER REACHES AN ADJUSTABLE HIGH THRESHOLD LEVEL
604